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The history of the theories about exogamy is given with special attention to McLennan and Westermarck. The real clue he thinks was suggested by Morgan as a scheme to abolish the marriage of blood relatives. Dr. Frazer feels that this was the origin in Australia as well as in America.

Whether the author has stated the explanation in final terms is relatively unimportant. We cannot know too much of social origins. This is a most valuable discussion. The special student will read it all—the general reader will find the fourth volume sufficient. No reference library can afford to be without these volumes. They represent a great amount of careful study, monumental in character.

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**Hall, J. P., and Andrews, J. De W.** *American Law and Procedure.* 14 vols.

Pp. ccxlviii, 5912. Chicago: LaSalle Extension University.

Of the fourteen volumes constituting this monumental work, the first twelve were prepared under the editorial supervision of James Parker Hall, dean of the University of Chicago Law School. The remaining two volumes were written by James DeWitt Andrews, formerly of the Law Faculty of Northwestern University.

The work was designed to give a "brief, but accurate account of the principal doctrines of American law, in such form that they may be readily comprehensible not only to lawyers but to intelligent readers without technical training."

Volume I opens with a short prefatory note, and an interesting introduction. This introduction discusses the meaning, sources and classification of law, and gives, moreover, an outline of English legal history and an explanation of the use of judicial precedents. Volume I also treats of Contracts, Quasi Contracts and Agency. Volume II takes up Torts and Domestic Relations; Volume III, Criminal Law and Procedure and Sales; Volume IV, Personal Property, Bailments, Patents, Copyrights, etc., and Landlord and Tenant; Volume V, Real Property, Mining and Immigration Law; Volume VI, the Law and Practice relating to Wills, Equity and Trusts; Volume VII, Negotiable Instruments, Guaranty and Suretyship, Insurance and Banking; Volume VIII, Partnership, Corporations and Carriers; Volume IX, Public Corporations, Public Officers, Extraordinary Remedies and Conflict of Laws; Volume X, International Law, Damages, Judgments, etc., and Bankruptcy; Volume XI, Evidence, Pleading and Practice and Legal Ethics; and Volume XII, Constitutional Law. Volume XIII consists of a lengthy treatise on Jurisprudence and Legal Institutions. Volume XIV contains an article on Statutory Construction, a Glossary and a copious Index.

From the foregoing is apparent something of the editors' plan of treating the vast field they set out to cover. They are to be commended for paying special heed to the philosophic aspects of legal study. The work is aimed not only to afford information to those seeking it, but also

to present to the student, at least in outline, a plan of the entire system of American law from foundations to roof.

This is professedly the object of Volume XIII. Dr. Andrews insists that law is to be studied not as "a wilderness of special instances" but rather as a science. Therefore, he desires to co-ordinate all the various branches of the law, and have them studied as parts of one harmonious whole. It is to be regretted that this purpose was not kept more prominently before the minds of the editors in arranging the general table of contents. The various articles are as so many separate and independent text-books. The very order in which they appear, as indicated above, shows a lack of proper arrangement. For instance, we find Volume I ending with an article on agency, while Volume II treats of torts and domestic relations, and then in Volume III we have a discussion of criminal law and procedure and sales. Indeed, even the treatise on jurisprudence and legal institutions, which seeks to impart a scientific method to the study of law, is open itself, perhaps, to the charge of not being entirely scientific or methodical. It contains a great many quotations from all manner of writers, and while these quotations are always interesting and often illuminative, they help make Volume XIII somewhat discursive and fragmentary. If the contents of this volume were boiled down and made part of the introduction, the practical value to the beginner of Dr. Andrews' learned disquisition would be far greater.

But the general plan of treating each of the various concrete subjects mentioned above, such as torts and agency, is admirable. Even here, however, there is room for occasional criticism. Thus, for instance, wagers and agreements in restraint of trade are treated under discharge of contracts rather than under formation of contracts, although in both cases the illegality tainting the transaction prevents a contract from ever being formed, so that there is none to be discharged. However, for the most part the arrangement of each subject is excellent, and the table of contents exhibiting it enables the reader to refer promptly to the desired information.

The style of the authors of almost all the articles has been well adapted to the needs of those who will use American Law and Procedure. Legal principles are stated in a plain and business-like way. The text is throughout interesting, and technical expressions are avoided as much as possible, although not at the expense of legal accuracy. Accordingly the books are quite readable. They are not encumbered with a mass of notes, since they have been designed more for students than for active lawyers. Nevertheless, the active practitioner will find much in their pages to repay his careful attention.

Sets of questions are to be found at the end of each volume, which will enable the student's memory and understanding of what he has read to be carefully tested. Another useful feature of the work is the reference to standard text-books and other authorities wherein the subjects covered by the various articles may be found more fully treated. Above all, the correspondence course maintained by the LaSalle Extension University will add vastly to the value of the entire work.

Some of the articles call for special mention by reason of their exceptional excellence. Thus, the treatise on Copyrights and Trademarks, is quite up to date and practical, although for lack of space the trademark laws of the several states could not be set forth. The article on Patent Law is also very good. Dr. Andrews' work on Statutory Construction has great merit, and forms a valuable part of the general scheme of instruction adopted by the editors of *American Law and Procedure*. Special mention may be made also of the work on Constitutional Law by Professor Hall.

Many students will be able to gather more from this work than they could from a much larger and more pretentious one. Its limited size prevents it from being anything like exhaustive. But the very curtailment of the discussion on many topics, which confines the student's attention to basic principles, makes for a clearer understanding of those principles. In the larger digests and encyclopædias which purport to cover the entire field of American law, the beginner's attention is distracted by a multitude of conflicting decisions, and often where there is no conflict, the main outline of the law is lost sight of in a maze of petty details. *American Law and Procedure* will, therefore, find a place in legal literature, and will doubtless prove of great service to lawyers and general readers, as well as to the students for whom it is primarily intended. The fourteen volumes constituting this set of books are well written. The type is large and easily read. The binding is attractive and serviceable.

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**Jenks, J. W.** *Governmental Action for Social Welfare*. Pp. xvi, 226. Price, \$1.00. New York: Macmillan Company, 1910.

The chapters that make up this volume were given as the Kennedy Lectures, for 1907-08, in the New York School of Philanthropy. The title, which suggests an examination and exposition of principles underlying social legislation and administration, is a trifle misleading, for the book discusses the practical and personal difficulties that must be recognized and overcome in getting adequate legislation and effective administration.

Beginning with a summary of the handicaps to which social thought and action are subject, and of the prejudices that must be reckoned with in practical relations with men, the chapters take up in succession the problems involved in dealing with the various departments of government. The human element is emphasized throughout. Legislation is ever a matter of compromise. The average legislator is a practical man. He may be aware of the worth of a measure, but is unlikely to urge it unless there is a strong chance of success. He is likely to defer its consideration until a more favorable time, or by piecemeal gains to reach desired ends in the spirit and by the methods of compromise. With this, the social reformer should not be impatient. The reformer is largely a product of his surroundings and experiences. He must remember that those upon whom he depends for governmental action in the interest of social welfare are likewise a